people of the country have some relief. The person like Shri Indrajit Gupta is sitting here who has been the Member of Parliament for the last 37 years and Shri Mulayam Singhji also had held higher positions. Therefore, I would like to request them that..

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : He wants to become a Chief Minister.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : What is your objection to this. It is my humble submission that the Government should ponder over it and take action in public interest...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, just a minute please. I have a meeting of the BAC at 3 O' clock today. After that I will see whether or not there is a case for re-consideration of my ruling that I gave in the morning. I will come back to the House in 45 minutes time, or even earlier and then I will give my observation whether there is any case for re-consideration or not. In the meantime, Matters under Rule 377 and other listed business on the agenda could continue. But this matter would be discussed at 4 O' clock sharp. I will come back on the re-consideration matter.

Now, Shri Rameshwar Patidar.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 — Contd.

(ii) Need to provide facilities to pilgrims visiting Amarnath

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khargone) : Mr Speaker, Sir, Pilgrimage to Amarnath is one of the most sacrosanct pilgrimage of Hindu religion, but today anyone who wants to avail the opportunity of pilgrimage to Amarnath, has to cover it in fear and panick At every step, there is risk to his life. Last year also, the pilgrimage to Amarnath was carried out in an atmosphere full of threats from the terroists.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to provide facilities and assistance to the Amarnath pilgrims as are provided to the Haj pilgrims.

15.02 hrs.

(Shri P M Sayeed in the Chair)

(iii) Need to release adequate funds out of the National Renewal Fund for Sick Textile Mills in Ahmedabad

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : There are 15 sick closed textile mills in Ahmedabad city. About fifty thousand textile workers are jobless and their families are starving. Because of this deteriorating economy, Ahmedabad has suffered many social tensions including communal riots. Huge losses are incurred on nine nationalised textile mills.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to release adequate funds out of the National Renewal Fund so that these jobless workers may get some relief.

(iv) Need to ensure payment of dues of royalty on electricity to Himachal Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, when the state of Himachal Pradesh attained full statehood, the states of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh were created out of Punjab and the electricity generated there was also distributed between the two states, out of which provision was made to grant Himachal Pradesh 7.19 royalty whereas the State Government at present, is getting only 2 19 royalty. According to the ground adopted for this, the existing royalty is five per cent less As such, neither the State Governments released funds to Himachal Pradesh according to the distribution made at that time, nor the Union Government issued instructions to the State Governments for releasing funds to Himachal Pradesh.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take action to ensure release of a sum of Rs 1400 crores due to Himachal Pradesh by these states so that there is no hindrance in the development programmes of Himachal Pradesh.

(v) Need to provide compensation to the people affected by sand casting due to construction of Mandira Dam in Orissa

[English]

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO (Sundergarh) : I wish to draw the attention of the Central Government towards the sand casting of hundreds of acres of land of the tribals by Mandira Dam. Mandira Dam has been constructed in order to supply water to Rourkela Steel Plant Some thirty-two tribal villages were displaced for the construction of this Dam. Due to this dam there is sand casting in the upper part of the dam on the hundreds of acres of land of the tribals

I urge upon the Government to give due compensation to the families whose cultivable land is under the sand casting. I would also urge upon